WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image forming apparatus that forms a color image, comprising:

determination means for determining whether image data of an object to be drawn is composed of gray data and a color value of the object is greater than a determination value;

erase means for erasing, if the determination means determines that the image data of the object to be drawn is composed of gray data and the color value of the object is greater than the determination value, image data of a background region that overlaps a drawing region of the to-be-drawn gray object on the basis of a preselected erasure pattern; and

drawing means for drawing the gray object using the image data of the background region that is erased by the erase means.

2. The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the determination means determines the kind of the to-be-drawn object, and presets the determination value in accordance with a result of the determination of the kind.

3. The image forming apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the kind of the to-be-drawn object is a character, a graphic, or an image.

4. The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the erase means includes a select

means for preselecting one of a plurality of erasure patterns, which are prepared in advance, in accordance with conditions.

5. The image forming apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the select means selects one of the plurality of erasure patterns in accordance with conditions including the kind of halftone screen, the kind of print medium, and the kind of to-be-drawn object.

6. The image forming apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the select means is capable of changing the plurality of erasure patterns that are prepared in advance, and the conditions for selection.

7. An image forming apparatus that forms a color image, comprising:

determination means for determining whether image data of an object to be drawn is composed of gray data and a color value of the object is greater than a determination value;

process means for subjecting the to-be-drawn object to a halftone process if the determination means determines that the image data of the to-be-drawn object is composed of gray data and the color value of the object is greater than the determination value;

erase means for erasing image data of a background region that overlaps a drawing region of the to-be-drawn gray object on the basis of a mask result that is

obtained from the halftone process result of the gray object processed by the process means and a preselected erasure pattern; and

drawing means for drawing the gray object using the image data of the background region that is erased by the erase means.

8. The image forming apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the erase means erases the image data of the background region that overlaps the drawing region of the to-be-drawn gray object on the basis of a mask result that is obtained from a bit-inversion result of the halftone process result of the gray object, which is processed by the process means, and the preselected erasure pattern.

9. The image forming apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the erase means erases the image data of the background region that overlaps the drawing region of the to-be-drawn gray object on the basis of a mask result that is obtained from the halftone process result of the gray object with a predetermined density and the preselected erasure pattern.

10. The image forming apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the erase means erases the image data of the background region that overlaps the drawing region of the to-be-drawn gray object on the basis of a mask result that is obtained from a bit-inversion result of the halftone process result of the gray

object with a predetermined density and the preselected erasure pattern.

11. A program that causes an image forming apparatus, which forms a color image, to execute a process, comprising:

determining whether image data of an object to be drawn is composed of gray data and a color value of the object is greater than a determination value;

erasing, if it is determined that the image data of the object to be drawn is composed of gray data and the color value of the object is greater than the determination value, image data of a background region that overlaps a drawing region of the to-be-drawn gray object on the basis of a preselected erasure pattern; and

drawing the gray object using the image data of the background region that is erased.

12. A program that causes an image forming apparatus, which forms a color image, to execute a process, comprising:

determining whether image data of an object to be drawn is composed of gray data and a color value of the object is greater than a determination value;

subjecting the to-be-drawn object to a halftone process if it is determined that the image data of the to-be-drawn object is composed of gray data and the color value of the object is greater than the

determination value;

erasing image data of a background region that overlaps a drawing region of the to-be-drawn gray object on the basis of a mask result that is obtained from the halftone process result of the processed gray object and a preselected erasure pattern; and

drawing the gray object using the image data of the background region that is erased.